

START

Department of Energy

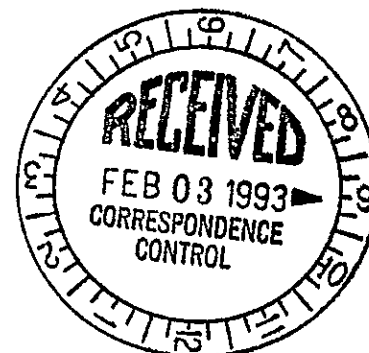
Richland Field Office

P.O. Box 550

Richland, Washington 99352

JAN 25 1993

93-LLB-002



Mr. David B. Jansen, P. E.
 Hanford Project Manager
 State of Washington
 Department of Ecology
 P.O. Box 47600
 Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

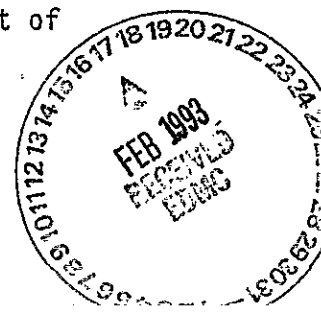
Dear Mr. Jansen:

SUSPENSION OF GROUT VAULT CONSTRUCTION

As a follow-up to our recent conversation on grout, I would like to obtain your agreement that it is prudent to suspend construction activities on Grout Vaults 106-109 (TPA Milestone M-01-02A) until we have finished negotiations on future Grout Milestones. Excavation activities for Vaults 106-109 began on November 25, 1992, utilizing local contractor forces. As you are aware, the issue of extending the grout milestones is currently in formal dispute resolution. We agree with Chuck Clarke's position in the September 14, 1992, letter which stated the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement) allows for a temporary hold to be placed on activities while the parties consider whether or not a "course modification" is appropriate. It should also be noted that the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA), Article VIII, Resolution of Disputes, Paragraph 29 (E) states "...the time period for completion of work directly affected by such a dispute shall be extended for at least a period of time equal to the actual time taken to resolve any good faith dispute..." This TPA provision applies to the deferral of construction activities at this time. Furthermore, stopping construction on Vaults 106-109 during dispute resolution will allow RL to focus resources on continuing grouting operations.

I would like to reaffirm RL's commitment to moving forward with the grout program. Despite the fact that we are in dispute over the recent proposed changes to TPA Milestone M-01, RL is continuing to work toward the restart of grouting operations at the earliest possible date. As noted in the change request, RL's projected restart date is October 1993. RL will continue to look for ways to accelerate the rewrite and review of the Performance Assessment and streamline restart preparations where possible.

While Article 29 (E) is self implementing, I solicit your formal written agreement to suspend the construction of Grout Vaults 106-109 at the earliest possible date. During the interim, RL will work toward the restart of grouting operations and support limited construction activities.


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Mr. David B. Jansen
93-LLB-002

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JAN 25 1993

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please call Mr. John Anttonen on (509) 376-7591 or Mr. Steven Wisness on (509) 376-6798.

Sincerely,


S. H. Wisness
Hanford Project Manager

DSD:LAH

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Incoming: 9301505

Subject: SUSPENSION OF GROUT VAULT CONSTRUCTION

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